

House Bill 484

By: Representatives Hembree of the 67th, Ehrhart of the 36th, Smith of the 113th, Sheldon of the 105th, Gardner of the 57th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to revise a definition and add a
3 definition; to provide that enrollment in postsecondary courses at a branch of the Georgia
4 Department of Technical and Adult Education will not count against the hourly caps for
5 HOPE grants; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by adding a new paragraph (5.1) and
11 revising paragraph (7) of Code Section 20-3-519, relating to definitions regarding HOPE
12 scholarships and grants, as follows:

13 "(5.1) 'Dual credit enrollment' means enrollment by a student in a postsecondary course
14 in which an agreement has been established between an eligible high school and an
15 eligible postsecondary institution wherein the student earns Carnegie units of credit that
16 count toward both high school graduation requirements and postsecondary coursework
17 requirements."

18 "(7) 'Eligible postsecondary institution' means a school which is:

- 19 (A) A unit of the University System of Georgia;
- 20 (B) A branch of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education ~~or an~~
21 ~~affiliated institution which is controlled by a local board of education;~~
- 22 (C) A private independent nonprofit postsecondary institution eligible for tuition
23 equalization grants in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (A) of paragraph
24 (2) of Code Section 20-3-411; or

1 (D) A private proprietary postsecondary institution eligible for tuition equalization
2 grants in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (C) of paragraph (2) of Code
3 Section 20-3-411."

4 SECTION 2.

5 Said part is further amended by revising subsection (e) of Code Section 20-3-519.5, relating
6 to eligibility for HOPE grants at a branch of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult
7 Education, as follows:

8 "(e) No student may receive HOPE grants for more than 95 quarter hours or 63 semester
9 hours of attempted coursework, except as provided for in subsection (f) of this Code
10 section. No student may receive more than a cumulative total of 190 quarter hours or 127
11 semester hours of combined HOPE scholarships and grants, unless in accordance with
12 Code Sections 20-3-519.2 and 20-3-519.3. For purposes of this subsection, attempted
13 hours shall not include hours for courses taken ~~pursuant to Code Section 20-2-161.1~~ and
14 paid for by a HOPE grant while a student is participating in dual credit enrollment with
15 both an eligible high school and a branch of the Department of Technical and Adult
16 Education or a unit of the University System of Georgia. The Department of Technical and
17 Adult Education or the University System of Georgia, as applicable, shall verify that the
18 student is enrolled in an eligible high school and shall notify the Georgia Student Finance
19 Commission of the student's participation in dual credit enrollment."

20 SECTION 3.

21 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
22 without such approval.

23 SECTION 4.

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.